

# Remarkable Achievements In Cottons

BY SARA MARSHALL COOK

## Cotton is King Again

PARIS is expressing an interest in cotton dresses never before equalled and American importers are reacting to this movement in an enthusiastic way. Never before has Paris taken so many orders on cotton dresses and never before have designers worked harder to produce the "something new" in cotton that their clients might not weary of the idea before the season opens.

A great incentive toward the making of beautiful models in cotton is the cottons themselves which represent the most remarkable achievement in this line of manufacture that the world has ever seen. The beauty of the fabrics coupled with the wonderful highly colored embroideries of this year make an irresistible combination which appeals to the imagination of the artist-designer and to the heart of the purely practical manufacturer who sees only the commercial.

### Paris Creates a New Type of Organdie

THE extreme novelty in sheer fabrics is Lingere, an organdie-like material woven in linen and cotton which looks like pineapple points. This material is without artificial finish and, therefore, will retain its stiffness. It costs about the same as organdie and is really very interesting.

The new changeable or shot organdie, called Organdine Irixe, is a sheer material woven with warp and weft in contrasting color. It is very lovely and the shades are exquisite. Cheruit is using this changeable organdie with embroidered dots in a third color. This particular material is known as Elyssa Irixe.

Another extreme novelty is Filice. In developing this, two very new tissues are laid together, one of which is cotton crepe, often woven with tinsel and always embroidered and printed. It is of a mesh-like design, curiously beautiful and interesting.

The white crêpes embroidered in border and all-over designs in color that have just arrived from France will make some of the loveliest dresses for the coming summer. Among them are hand painted French crêpes; that is, a very sheer French crêpe printed in a dainty floral or a conventional pattern and then embroidered in either a border or all-over design in a contrasting, usually darker, colored cotton thread. The piece of material is in beige printed in floral design in dull red, green and blue and then embroidered in black.

### Cotton Crepe Dresses From The Archives of Russia

FROM London come beautiful Liberty Crêpes which are very sheer. The sheer background is a slightly raised floral pattern printed in black and then finely embroidered.

Among the less expensive fabrics of this sort are broadened organdies embroidered in fine cotton threads. The designs are usually printed in some sort of a floral pattern and the embroidery worked in squares about an inch in size. Plain and drop stitch styles are similarly embroidered.

Among the heavier fabrics are cotton homespuns in pastel and bright hues with border patterns embroidered in Egyptian designs and organdies as well as in conventional crêpes. For instance, a lovely shade of crystal blue is embroidered in red, yellow and black, a bright yellow in blue and brown, a reseda green in blue and black.

Following the introduction of the Russian idea in blouses there has been a development in cotton dresses of Russian style. The newest are those consisting of two pieces: that is, a blouse and skirt. Occasionally a one-piece model is made to appear as if it consisted of separate blouse and skirt. A typical frock of this sort is of white cotton crêpe in which is woven in solid color embroidered in Russian design. There are also many one-piece dresses with most interesting girdles set to a low waistline.



The two-piece models often combine two colors as the one illustrated at the center of this page. It is developed from toile blue and white cotton crêpe. The skirt has broad front and back panels of white crêpe and plaited side panels of the blue. The blouse, entirely in blue, is embroidered in shades of blue and white cotton intermingled with white crystal beads. The embroidery is done in the peasant cross stitch.

### A New Bead Made From Molded Cotton

AMONG the newest things are the crêpe Roumaya dresses done with brilliant embroidery, this embroidery being a combination of cotton threads and glass, wood, composition and porcelain beads. There is also a new bead made of cotton. It is a small ball of molded cotton wool which is being much used as an or-

The French woman, when busy about her house, wears a coquettish apron. In the panel are shown two typical models, one of white organdie and green taffeta, the other of yellow linen embroidered in red silk. The large pockets are intended to hold sewing utensils. At the right—Dress of Rodier's crêpe Martella, a cotton crêpe, embroidered in brilliant colors. Below (reading from the left)—White cotton crêpe dress with Russian embroidery, the small pouch pockets being characteristic of the Russian peasant costume. Two-piece dress of cotton crêpe combining blue and white in both fabric and bead work. Dress of white crêpe Roumaya embroidered in colors.

nament for cotton dresses. One question the durability of the cotton bead, consequently many manufacturers are adhering to the crystal and the wooden bead.

A sports dress in cotton crêpe Roumaya is sketched on this page. It is a youthful model suggestive of tennis, the one outdoor game that the jeunes filles françaises adore. The colored embroidery is effective on the white background.

Cotton crêpes have a big showing among summer fabrics, and there are many variations of crêpe Roumaya, already so well known. It is being shown in beaded patterns laid off in squares and in stripes, the lat-

ter called Roumaya Ruban Perlé. Crêpe Martella and crêpe Floconnia continue to be in great demand. Rodier's crêpe Martella—a cotton crêpe in a special material also known as hammered crêpe—is used for the dress at the upper right of the sketch. This model may be developed either in white or color with brilliant toned embroidery in high contrast.

### Dainty Aprons for The Artistic Parisienne

A WHITE crêpe Roumaya two-piece dress, consisting of a Russian blouse and plaited skirt, has looped panels elaborately embroidered in multi-colored beads after de-

signs that are purely Russian. The bodice portion, in blousing style, is also elaborately embroidered and has the characteristic plaque or motif resembling a breast plate. Despite the elaborate effect of this model, it is created by a Paris manufacturer at a price that will put it among popular sellers.

Quite a furore has been created over aprons. Our manufacturers who specialize in house dresses have turned their attention to aprons, following the fashion launched in Paris. The Paris aprons are coquettish in style, as indicated by the new models sketched to-day, which have just been designed by a French dressmaker. In her own home the

French woman, wears an apron when she is busy about the house with the affairs of her family.

There are aprons that look so much like dresses that it is impossible to distinguish them from a real frock. They are being made in the most charming styles and are intended to take the place of the totally uninteresting house dress. If there is any place where a woman may wear a fanciful and amusing costume it is in her own home when busy with her domestic duties.

### Sheer Cotton Fabrics Combined With Silks

CLEVER things have been done in making house dresses and aprons harmonize with the interior deco-

ration of one's summer cottage. As it is predicted that these will blossom out in great array in the mid-summer, the clever woman will take advantage of the ideas offered early in the season and be supplied with several of these pretty garments.

All sorts of soft materials such as Japanese crêpes in beautiful colors are suitable for aprons. Linens, lawns and organdies as well as the muslins combined with bright colored taffetas are used. Among the French aprons shown to-day is one of yellow linen embroidered in red silk. The model is made with deep pockets to hold sewing or embroidery utensils.

A white lawn bretelle apron is ornamented with an elaborate embroidery in purple iris and green leaves. Blue linen aprons are made with drawn work and white tassels. Then there are voile aprons in two colors, white and deep orange, with an embroidery of yellow field flowers,